

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY EMPLOYEES

FROM: ERIC R. BURGESSON

CHIEF OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Request for Volunteers to Serve as Energy Restoration

Team Members during this Year's Hurricane Season

Though the devastation wrought by the 2005 hurricane season is still fresh in our minds, this year's hurricane season is looming and could begin as soon as early June. The Department of Energy (DOE) was commended for its efforts to quickly restore vital energy functions following last year's devastating hurricanes, and the Secretary is very proud of our efforts. This year's hurricane season promises to be another taxing one on the Department; however, so we need to prepare for it.

We are looking for additional volunteers within DOE – especially those of you with backgrounds in electrical engineering, petroleum engineering, and emergency management – to serve as Energy Restoration Team members. In addition to serving your country in a time of need, volunteering in this capacity is a vital part of the Department's commitment to the National Response Plan as the lead agency for energy-related matters.

As an Energy Restoration Team member, you will be required to complete two web-based Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) courses, as well as attend a three-day training class, to help prepare you for deployment (options for this class are May 9-11 at Camp Dawson, West Virginia; May 16-18 at the HAMMER facility in Richland, Washington; and May 23-25 in the Forrestal Building – travel expenses will be paid for by the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability). Based on our experience over the last three years, you can expect your deployment at FEMA regional offices or State Emergency Operations Centers to last anywhere from 16 days to a month. Your tasks will involve such activities as coordinating with other Federal and State agencies and the public utilities themselves throughout the power restoration process; preparing input into Headquarters reports; and fielding questions about all aspects of the energy situation in the area where you are assigned. Those who are already on the deployment roster will tell you of the sense of pride they share from being the “go-to” people during a time of great need. It is, needless to say, a very rewarding experience.

If you are interested in joining the Energy Restoration Team, you must first get the approval of your immediate supervisor. The Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, which coordinates the DOE response to energy emergencies, can provide you

and your supervisor with a statement of unclassified duties to cover your deployment period should you wish.

For more information regarding this important opportunity, please call Alex de Alvarez at (202) 586-9029.